TIMES-VIRGINIAN

IN THE HEART OF THE DARK TOBACCO BELT

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

ESTABLISHED 1892

CALVIN H. ROBINSON ..... EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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EDITORIALS

N. R. FEATHERSTON

It was more than the physical fact of his age that made of Ragland Featherston a "gentleman of the old school." His charming manner and gracious nature were built upon qualities of character long associated with Virginia gentlemen of a few generations back. Born in the very house where Robert E. Lee signed the generous peace terms of Gen. U. S. Grant at Old Appomattox Court House, this fine citizen who passed away last week had about him the atmosphere of the Old South.

His interest in people was so marked that he retained memories too often faded in the hustle of this modern age. His recollection of family connections was amazing. He could reel off family trees like modern youngsters reel off the names of movie stars. He seldom forgot a face Only a gracious man with the milk of human kindness in his soul could so instill his mind with family data.

He was a frequent contributor to the news columns of this newspaper. Both we and our readers will miss the frequent biographical articles signed; "N. R. F." He has gone to join old friends, about whom he had written so many fine obituaries. We shall miss him and we are grateful for the privilege of having known his friendship.

THERE'LL BE A RACE

There is every indication that Virginia will have an exciting race for the Governorship next year. Four candidates are already in the field. And they are four able candidates any one of whom might win. There will be much jockeying for position and if all four stick to the race it will be difficult to predict the outcome.

There is one prediction, however, we can make with fair chance of success. That is that Virginia will have a governor chosen by a minority of the voters. And that brings up the question of whether there should be provision for a run-off primary in event no candidate gets a majority. We are not prepared to answer that question. Many states do have provision for run-off elections. We are prepared to say that Virginians should give study to the problem and see how it works in states using it. We are not inclined to favor government by a minority and in Virginia the Governor is a powerful official who should be selected with great care.

THE BOWL SEASON

The time is near for a rash of post-season football games, known as 'bowl' games. A town able to accomodate 20,000 or so spectators and willing to guarantee upwards of $50,000, can stage a bowl game and fetch lots of publicity for itself.

For a while the Rose Bowl game played in California was the big post season classic, and the winner was more or less recognized as the national football champion. Now the Rose Bown game has become just another extra game, due to restriction of limiting participants to just two conferences.

The bowl games should be accepted as money-making games for schools going in for high-pressure football and as dandy ticket schemes for alert cities.

And there is no reason why there should not be a bowl game or two in Virginia, say at Roanoke or at Richmond.

As for the championship among the nation's teams; it's on a basis of regular season performance on representative schedules. This year it is a toss-up between Michigan and Notre Dame, neither of which is likely to appear in a post-season game.

Something of the same situation exists as to recognition of individual players. There will be gads of All-American selections, and each selection will choose squads of up to fifty players. But there seems to be no official All-American team. And as for state, conference and regional all-star teams, they will be a dime-a-dozen and take them or leave them. Our own selection of a championship team or of a list of all-star players would be: Notre Dame. Year in and year our the football capital is at South Bend.

WITH OTHER EDITORS

DID YOU KNOW THAT....

(Arlington Sun)

Virginia's system of State-owned and State maintained roads is the second largrest in the United States That it includes 47,000 miles of highways and secondary roads? That all but 5,000 miles of Virginia's roads have some kind of surfacing?

These are a few of the interesting bits of information contained in a booklet published some weeks ago by the Virginia Department of Highways to acquaint people of the State with the complexity of its problems in building and maintaining Virginia's highway system. There is much information in this booklet. Perhaps you'd like to hear more of it.

The primary highways, such as the road to Richmond and Lee High way, come to a total of 9,000 miles. Secondary roads total 38,000 miles. Yet the primary highways carry 80 per cent of the traffic, although they account for only 20 per cent of the mileage. Thus the primary roads bring in 80 per cent of the gas tax dollars, and pay for a large part of the secondary system. Very few secondary roads yield enough gas taxes to carry themselves.

Eighteen per cent of all highway revenues comes from auto tags' The gas tax provides 66 per cent, and Federal aid funds account for 14 per cent—but everyone pays a Federal gasoline tax, too, the department points out.

The cost of building and maintaining roads has gone up 70 per cent since before the war, but revenues have increased only 35 per cent.

Three counties in Virginia—Arlington, Henrico and Warwick maintain their own county roads. One per cent of the Highway Department's income is divided among these counties.

Taking a look at the future, the Highway Department warns that Virginia has thousands of miles of roads which were built for 20 mile per hour traffic and today are obsolete and inadequate. Modernization of all Virginia roads as traffic conditions require would cost well over five hundred million dollars.

Virginia has only 1,300 miles of road with a driving surface at least 22 feet wide, but should have 4,592 miles of that width, including 1,192 miles more of four-lane highways.

There are 3,000 dangerous curves in 4,000 miles of interstate and intercity highways of Virginia. The State still has 200 railroad-highway crossings which are dangerous, and 40 per cent of the bridges are too narrow or too weak.

So it's easy to see the Highway Department expects to be busy for a good many years to come. And the discouraging thing about it is that roads wear out just like your shoes. One is inclined to conclude that the automobile is a very, very expensive luxury.

Truman back in Washington after Florida vacation.

Chiang's wife urges more U. S. aid for China.

Vandenberg proposes plan to limit debate in Senate.

Senators say that passage of a housing bill assured.

Opening of a new air field in Berlin boost to the air-lift.

Carolina downs Duke, 20 to 0.

William and Mary to play New Year's game in Memphis.

Virginia hunting season open.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

By DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 5:1-7; Matthew 13: 3-23; 21:33-46; Luke 13:25-30; 13:6-28

DEVOTIONAL READING: Matthew 13: 10-16; 24-52.

God's Story-Teller

Lesson for November 28, 1948

"TRUTH in a tale," it is said, "will enter in at lowly doors." The greatest truth of the entire Bible does not come to us in the shape of an essay but of a story—the story of Jesus.

Dr. Foreman

"The gospel did not appear on the editorial page but on the news pages." Many people can understand essays; millions more can understand a story. Jesus himself, when he gave the world his message, used stories to do it. We are told that he never made a talk to the people without using a parable. The parables of the Bible are simple stories, often no more than a sentence long.

They are all alike in this: Whatever the story may be, there is more in it than meets the eye. Parables were not a form of entertainment; they were a way of teaching.

* * *

No Cause Is Lost

SOMETIMES the teller of a parable would explain what he meant, as Isaiah does with his little song of the vineyard. Sometimes, and most often in Jesus' case, the meaning is so plain that only a very stupid person could miss it.

Matthew arranges several of Jesus' parables in pairs; one of these is the twin story of the mustard seed and the yeast in the meal (Matt. 13:31-33). Both mean the same thing, and both are so obvious that Jesus did not think it necessary to explain them.

The Kingdom of Heaven—the ideal world, the world as God intends it to be—is a living thing, a growing thing, something at first small, almost invisible. But it will grow: you cannot stop it.

So the ideal world, the Kingdom of Heaven, (Jesus hints) is not an artificial thing, it cannot be constructed by blueprints. It has to follow the course of living things. It does not come all of a sudden, it grows very quietly. You might not see the seed in the ground, but the farmer knows it is there.

* * *

Pearl of Great Price

SOMETIMES two or three of Jesus' parables are like a musical theme with variations. The twin stories of the pearl worth more than the jeweler's whole collection, and of the treasure hidden in the field, are very much alike, yet just a little different in meaning.

Both tell us that the Kingdom of God is more valuable than anything else on earth; indeed, it includes everything else of value. But the stories are different. One tells of a man who was looking for something, the other tells of a man who was surprised by finding something.

Once a Chinese gentleman became dissatisfied with his inherited Confucianism, and set out to find a better religion. For years he shopped around, never finding what he needed. He left Christianity to the last, for in his section of China only coolies and peasants were Christians. But when he began to make friends with some real Christians, he was overjoyed. This was what he had been looking for. This was the pearl of great price.

On the other hand, a drunken sailor, certainly not looking for religion, wandered one night into a Salvation Army meeting. They could do nothing with him, but before they dragged him off to the lodging-house one of them slipped a bit of paper into his pocket. The next morning, cold sober, wondering where he was, he put his hand into that pocket and pulled the paper out. On it were penciled three words: **God loves you.** It hit him right between the eyes; and he became a Christian. That was the "treasure hid in the field."

* * *

How Far Will Love Go?

JESUS' contemporaries told parables too, but they have all been forgotten. Jesus' parables are incomparable, unforgettable, immortal. If Jesus had been known for nothing else, he would have been remembered for the four stories of the Good Samaritan, the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, the Lost Son.

These all have much the same point. "Lost" does not mean hopelessly doomed. How many persons we give up as hopeless! But God never gives up any one. A "lost" person is one whom God is seeking.

(Copyright by the International Council of Religious Education on behalf of 40 Protestant denominations. Released by WNU Features.)

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Television on the Farm

Burk Childs' home has become mighty popular ever since he got that television set—one of the few sets in our town, outside of Andy's Gordon Tavern.

Not only do the kids stay home nights, but the neighbors drop in for "anything whatever," being telecast. And Burk and the missus always have them welcome, with a mellow glass of beer or ale (with cider and cookies for the youngsters).

While I guess everyone admits that television still has far to go, I've had to see that it will some day be as much a part of American home and farm life as the temperate glass of beer that Buck serves, and the hospitality that goes with it.

And from where I sit, anything that adds to gracious living in America—brings folks together for temperate, quiet entertainment—is a boon to this home-loving land of ours. (We're thinking of buying a television set ourselves!)

Joe Marsh

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Classified Ads Get Results!

Evergreen

Evergreen, Nov. 22.- The W. M. S. met last Wednesday night with Mrs. W. E Warriner, with a good attendance.

Howard Glover, who was sick last week with an infected lip, was able to return to work this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Blackwell and son were Sunday guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Green Garrett.

Mrs. Howard Glover and daughter, Bess called to see Mrs. H. C. Staples Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. H B Cralle spent last Friday night with her daughter and family, Mr and Mrs. Dan Clapp, of Richmond.

Miss Eulalia Glover was the Thursday night guest of Miss Betsy Ferguson.

Mrs. G. W. Glover spent Friday night in Lynchburg with her daughter, Mrs. Mary Sullivan. She was accompanied home Saturday by Mrs Sullivan who spent the week-end with her.

Book Week was observed here at the school Friday night. The S. C. A. gave a nice program and the P.-T. A. met after the program. Rev. Carter was present . gave a brief talk.

Rev. J. L.Simpson preached a fine sermon here at the Methodist Church Sunday night. There was a large attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam White and three children, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Staples.

Mrs Dillard Baker, who has been a patient in the Lynchburg hospital has returned home much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Jennings and children, of Christiansburg, are spending this week with his mother, Mrs. Sam Jennings.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Farrar called to see Mrs. Jimmie Evans Saturday night.

Mrs. Eddie Warriner is not well at this writing. Mrs. C. J. Paulette spent Monday with her.

Curley says the day of the city political machine is nearing end.

Play safe—drive carefully.

Can Black-Draught Help Physical Fatigue?

Yes, Black-Draught may help physical fatigue if the only reason you have that listless feeling is because of constipation. Black-Draught, the friendly laxative, is usually prompt and thorough when taken as directed. It costs only a penny or less a dose. That's why it has been a best-seller with four generations. If you are troubled with such symptoms as loss of appetite, headache, upset stomach, flatulence, physical fatigue, sleeplessness, mental haziness, bad breath — and if these symptoms are due only to constipation — then see what Black-Draught may do for you. Get a package today.

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THEN SEE YOUR GUILD OPTICIAN

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EXCLUSIVELY OPTICAL

Flyers set new record for day's supply haul to Berlin.

Secretary Marshall is known to be anxious to retire.

When you have a checking account, you spend cautiously and wisely . . . make your money go farther . . have more to set aside for future needs. We'll welcome *you* as a depositor.

Buy and Hold U. S. Security Bonds

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Member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, each depositor is insured for Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00).

WE'LL WELCOME YOUR ACCOUNT

Thanks to many people for many things

THIS IS THE SEASON OF THANKSGIVING . . .

And there is much for which we can all be thankful in this great country of ours.

Certainly we are thankful for a bountiful harvest of grain and corn, for a high level of production and employment, for a standard of living that is the envy of the world.

Most of all, perhaps, we are grateful for our American heritage . . . freedom of opportunity, freedom of choice, freedom to think and worship according to our own beliefs.

* * * * *

We Feel as a Chevrolet dealer it is an appropriate time to convey our sincere appreciation to the people of this community for their loyalty, patience and understanding.

For Despite Chevrolet's production of more cars and trucks during 1948 than any other manufacturer there is still a long "waiting list" for America's most-wanted cars and trucks.

Chevrolet is doing everything within its power to maintain and increase production. Meantime, we would like to express our thanks . . .

Thanks to Buyers and Prospective Buyers of New Chevrolets for your generous recognition of the honest value built into this first-choice car in the low-priced field. More people have bought Chevrolet cars and trucks, during the eighteen-year period from 1931 to date, than have bought the cars and trucks of any other manufacturer.

Thanks to Those Who Are Waiting for Orders to be Filled for your patience and understanding. You can be sure we are doing our best to treat all customers fairly . . . doing our best to speed the day when we can give you the good news, "Your waiting days are over!"

Thanks to Service Customers for the opportunity to keep your present cars in safe driving condition. We have tried to serve you well, and appreciate your patronage.

Thanks to all whose friendship and favor have helped maintain Chevrolet's leadership . . .

Thanks for your patronage which has made

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